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**LEEK RURAL DISTRICT  
COUNCIL**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

and the

**PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

for the year 1957

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**November, 1958**



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# LEEK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1957

### Chairman:

COUNCILLOR T. RILEY

### Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR C. R. HEWLETT

### Members:

Councillor	W. Axon	Councillor	Mrs. M. A. Marshall
	T. W. Buxton	"	H. Meor
"	R. W. Critchlow	"	Mrs. M. Robson
"	J. L. Findlow	"	J. Rushton
"	H. Ford	"	G. Shufflebotham
"	J. W. Grindon	"	Mrs. G. Sigley
"	R. G. Grindon	"	P. Smith
"	H. Hommond	"	J. G. Stubbs
"	J. Horrison	"	E. Titterton
"	J. W. Heathcote	"	A. E. Wood

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### PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

#### Medical Officer of Health:

H. KELSO WATSON, M.B., Ch.B.

#### Public Health Inspector

D. K. PEDLEY, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Certified Food Inspector

#### Additional Public Health Inspector:

T. SPENCER, Cert. R.S.I.

# REPORT

## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area ... ..	72,623 acres
Number of inhabited houses ... ..	5,705
Rateable Value at 31st March, 1957 ... ..	£110,974
Net product of 1d. rate for year ended 31/3/57	£434/15/8
Estimated Population ... ..	19,150
Number of persons per acre ... ..	.26

## INDUSTRIES

The main occupations of the inhabitants are farming and mining, but a substantial number of persons are employed in the Five Towns, in the silk mills in Leek, and in the quarries on the Derbyshire borders.

## VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	163	159	322
Illegitimate	4	5	9
	—	—	—
	167	164	331

Birthrate per 1,000 of the population—16.93

Stillbirths	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	4	4	8
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
	4	4	8

Rate per 1,000 of the population—.40

Deaths (all ages)	M	F	TOTAL
	106	82	188

Death rate per 1,000 of the population—12.27

Deaths of Infants (Under 1 year)	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	7	1	8
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
	7	1	8

Death rate per 1,000 live births—30.20

## TUBERCULOSIS

The table below shows the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year, and figures for the ten preceding years are given for comparison purposes.

	Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Total (Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
<b>1957</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>278</b>
1956	113	96	209	31	33	64	144	129	273
1955	112	90	202	29	31	60	141	121	262
1954	111	88	199	30	32	62	141	120	261
1953	107	87	194	29	31	60	136	118	254
1952	106	80	186	27	30	57	133	110	243
1951	102	77	179	27	29	56	129	106	235
1950	99	74	173	31	30	61	130	104	234
1949	96	71	167	31	30	61	127	101	228
1948	78	66	144	31	29	60	109	95	204
1947	69	68	137	29	28	57	98	96	194

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The figures below show the Incidence of Infectious Diseases in 1957 in comparison to those of the three preceding years:

	1957	1956	1955	1954
Measles ... ..	107	174	190	180
Whooping Cough ... ..	80	33	22	114
Diphtheria ... ..	—	2	..	—
Pneumonia ... ..	5	2	4	10
Scarlet Fever ... ..	14	12	8	16
Erysipelas ... ..	—	1	2	5
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ... ..	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	5	..	1	2
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	7	..	4	—
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—
Pneum. Meningitis ... ..	—	..	..	..
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	..	—	—
Acute Encephalitis (P.I.) ... ..	2	..	..	..
Food Poisoning ... ..	6	1	1	—
Total Cases ... ..	226	225	232	327

## Incidence of Infectious Diseases

Parishes	Measles	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Scarlet Fever	Acute Encephalitis	Dysentery	Acute Poliomyelitis	Food Poisoning
Alstonefield		2						
Bagnall	10	2	1					
Bradnop								1
Buttertan								
Endon and Stanley	16	12		7	1	1		5
Faw ieldhead								
Grindan	1							
Heathylee							1	
Heaton	7	1	1	1				
Hollinsclough								
Horton	3	5	1	1			1	
Ilam								
Leekfrith								
Langnor								
Longsdan								
Norton-in-the-Moars	52	52	1	1	1	4	2	
Onecate	1							
Quarnford								
Rushton	16	5						
Sheen								
Titteswarth		1	1	1			3	
Warslow and Elkstones	1							
Wetton								
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>

  

Months of Occurrence								
January	5	3						
February	2	40	1		1	2		
March	9	22	1					1
April	7	11		1				1
May	15	1			1	1		
June	13	1		1			2	
July	18			10				
August	24			2		1	2	4
September	11	1					1	
October		1	3					
November							2	
December						1		
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>

# Age Incidence of Infectious Diseases

AGE GROUP	Measles		Whooping Cough		Scarlet Fever		Acute Encephalitis		Primary Pneumonia		Polymyelitis		Typhoid		Food Poisoning		Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ...	1		4	2							1									
1 to 2 years ...	13		6	9							1				1					
3 to 4 years ...	11		9	6		1									1					
5—9 years ...	28		21	20	1	1	1		1		2		1						1	
10—14 years ...	1			2																
15—24 years ...						1		1	2		1				1				1	
25—44 years ...	1			1	1				1										1	
+5—64 years ...																				
65 and over ...																				
Total (all ages) ...	58	19	40	10	8	6	1	1	4	1	4	3		2	2	4		1	2	1
TOTAL - Male and Female ...	107		80		14		2		5		7		5		6		1		3	

## Causes of Death in Leek Rural District 1957

Causes of Death	Males	Females
Tuberculosis, Respiratory ... ..	2	—
Tuberculosis, Other ... ..	1	—
Syphilitic disease ... ..	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—
Meningococcal infection ... ..	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	1
Measles ... ..	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	3	6
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... ..	5	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	—	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	—	—
Other malignant lymphatic neoplasms ... ..	11	5
Leukaemia, leukaemia ... ..	1	—
Diabetes ... ..	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	11	20
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	11	8
Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	1	3
Other heart disease ... ..	18	16
Other circulatory disease ... ..	2	2
Influenza ... ..	3	1
Pneumonia ... ..	4	4
Bronchitis ... ..	7	—
Other disease of respiratory system ... ..	—	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	2	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	1	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	—	—
Congenital malformations ... ..	2	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... ..	11	6
Motor Vehicle accidents ... ..	4	—
All other accidents ... ..	3	2
Suicide ... ..	1	2
Homicide and operations of war ... ..	—	—
Total — all causes ... ..	106	82



# Sanitary inspection of the Area —

## Summary of Visits

### HOUSING:

(a)	Inspection for defects ... ..	62	
(b)	Council House applicants ... ..	14	
(c)	Moveable dwellings ... ..	13	
(d)	Housing Inspections ... ..	143	
(e)	Improvement Grant applicants ... ..	184	
(f)	Rent Act ... ..	17	
		<hr/>	433

### GENERAL:

Inspection of premises for nuisances ... ..	87
Food premises ... ..	23
Slaughterhouses and knackers' yard ... ..	794
Drainage inspections ... ..	567
Proposed drainage and conversions ... ..	129
Water supplies—general ... ..	88
Samples of water taken ... ..	92
Shops ... ..	36
Refuse and nightsail collection and disposal ... ..	137
Infectious diseases ... ..	32
Fumigations and Infestations ... ..	13
Rodent control ... ..	80
Factories ... ..	21
Petroleum stores ... ..	15
Swimming Pool ... ..	5
Miscellaneous ... ..	53
Air Pollution ... ..	5
Milk Supply ... ..	12
	<hr/>
	2622

### NOTICES SERVED

1.	Informal Notices ... ..	235
	Statutory Notices ... ..	—
2.	(a) Number of Nuisances Remedied .	76
	(b) Number of defective dwellings rendered fit following service of Statutory and Informal notices ...	97

## WATER SUPPLIES

### MAINS SUPPLIES AVAILABLE

The Council now has mains water supplies in the parishes of Hartan, Langsdon (part) and Endan and Stanley (part), the water being obtained from the Leek U.D.C.'s barehale at Paal End; the Parishes of Alstonefield, Ilan and Wetton, the supply being from the Ashbourne R.D.C. pending the completion of the Eastern Parishes Scheme part II.

In addition small Village schemes serve the villages of Longnar, Warslaw and Grindan.

The Staffordshire Patteries Water Board supply the Parishes of Bagnall and Nartan-in-the-Maars and parts of the Parishes of Endan and Stanley and Langsdon.

### EASTERN PARISHES WATER SCHEME — SECTION "A" PART I

This Scheme was handed over for operation at the beginning of January and service connections began immediately. At the end of the year the following connections had been made :—

	Damestic	Metered Supplies	Farm Traughs (Metered)
ALSTONEFIELD	38*	24	8
ILAM	11	4	5
WETTON	17	15	—
	—	—	—
	66	43	13

(\*One stand-tap serves 5 properties).

It will be observed from these figures that the services put in during the year were nicely balanced between domestic and agriculture and it is anticipated that this progress will be maintained in the future.

The anticipated early start on the second and major portion of the Eastern Parishes Water Scheme is unfortunately still not in sight and it is hoped that this scheme will not be much longer delayed.

### HORTON, LONGSDON AND RUDYARD WATER SCHEME

Twelve new connections were made during the year making a total of 166 properties connected as fallows :—

	Connections during 1957		Total Connections	
	Damestic Supplies	Metered Supplies	Damestic Supplies	Metered Supplies
ENDON AND STANLEY	3	—	12	1
HORTON	3	1	82	33
LONGSDON	4	1	28	10
	—	—	—	—
	10	2	122	44

## SAMPLING OF WATER SUPPLIES

Seventy-five samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination and eleven for chemical analysis, the results of which are tabulated below :

Source	Bacteriological Examination			Chemical Analysis		
	No. of Samples Taken	Fit	Unfit	No. of Samples Taken	Fit	Unfit
Well	8	4	4	1	—	1
Spring	46	22	24	6	3	3
Borehole	17	17	—	3	3	—
Stream	4	—	4	1	—	1
Total	75	43	32	11	6	5

In addition 6 samples of water were taken from the Longnor village supply to check for metallic contamination.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

### New Sewerage Schemes

The Light Oaks and Brown Edge (Sytych Road) Sewerage Schemes were completed early in the year and the first connections to the new sewers were made in February.

The connections proceeded satisfactorily throughout the year and a total number of 93 properties at Light Oaks and 10 properties at Sytych Road were connected. Difficulties were met with in several of the connections but these were satisfactorily overcome. It is pleasing to note the good progress that has been made in this direction.

A storm relief manhole was constructed on the sewer in High Lane, Brown Edge to alleviate the surcharging of the sewer and the consequent trouble on Crate Shop Bank, Norton Green.

### Sewage Disposal Works

Every effort is being made to maintain as good an effluent as possible at the seriously overloaded works at Endon but the load increases continually.

The contract for the extension and improvement of the Raddeley Green works commenced at the beginning of December.

It is anticipated that work on the extension to the Norton Green works will commence early in 1958.

### Conversions of Privies to Water Closets

The Council makes contributions to property owners desirous of converting their toilets into water closets, the contribution being up to half the cost of the work with a maximum of £20. During the year 40 applications were approved, the Council's total contribution for these being £753. It is indeed satisfactory to note such progress in this respect and it is anticipated that the Council's financial assistance will do much to bring about many further conversions and thus reduce the number of premises from which nightsoil has to be collected in the built up areas.

## **Refuse and Nightsoil Collection and Disposal**

Refuse and nightsoil is collected from dwellings in every parish by direct labour. The several tips in the district were kept in a reasonable order and were treated from time to time against vermin.

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## **FACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1948**

NUMBER OF FACTORIES ON REGISTER	...	...	...	...	21
NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS MADE	...	...	...	...	21

Only two factories are of any size. No contraventions were discovered during the inspections made.

A small number of outworkers are employed, chiefly by the Silk Manufacturers in Leek and are concerned with the finishing of wearing apparel.

## HOUSING

### Action taken under the Housing Acts during the year

#### Demolition and Closing Orders:

Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal action under the Housing Acts .....	2
Parts of Buildings closed .....	Nil
Closing Orders made under Housing Act, 1957 .....	1

#### Repairs

Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit by informal action under the Public Health or Housing Acts .....	97
Number of houses where defects were remedied after service of formal notices under Public Health Acts	
(a) by owners .....	Nil
(b) by local authority .....	Nil
Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices under the Housing Acts.	
(a) by owners .....	Nil
(b) by local authority .....	Nil
Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and Demolition Orders revoked under Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 .....	Nil

#### Unfit houses in temporary use

Houses licensed for temporary occupation under Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 .....	Nil
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#### Purchase of houses by agreement

Houses purchased in Clearance Areas (other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders) .....	Nil
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### New Houses Erected During the Year

(a) By Private Enterprise ... ..	145
(b) By Local Authority ... ..	Nil

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145

## Improvement Grants

Number of applications received during the year ... ..	32
Number of applications in abeyance from previous year ...	5
	—
	37

Number of Improvement Grants made in respect of :

(a) Improvements to existing houses ... .. 34

(b) Conversion of buildings into living accommodation —

Total cost of work involved qualifying for grant ... .. £22,162

Total value of improvement grants approved ... .. £8,926

Number of Improvement Grant applications refused or withdrawn 1

Number of Improvement Grant applications in abeyance ... 2

Number of Improvement Works completed during the year ... 34

Of the 34 grants approved, 26 were in respect of owner-occupied property and 8 in respect of tenanted property.

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## RODENT CONTROL

Test-baiting of the public sewers was followed by successful treatment of the infested sections in accordance with the recommended practice of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The Council's refuse tips and sewage disposal works were under constant surveillance and the rat population was successfully reduced by frequent maintenance treatments.

The Council's free service for domestic premises was used increasingly and several other premises were treated with satisfactory results.

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## PETROLEUM ACTS

Fifty licences were issued for the bulk storage of 69,100 gallons of Petroleum spirit.

# MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

Carcases inspected	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	1184	72	3632	499	—
Number inspected	1184	72	3632	499	—
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</b>	—	—	2	1	—
Whole carcasses condemned ... ..					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	132	—	363	6	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	10.30	—	10.04	1.2	—
<b>Tuberculosis only:</b>	2	—	—	—	—
Whole carcasses condemned ... ..					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	134	—	—	10	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... ..	11.32	—	—	2.0	—
<b>Cysticercosis</b>	6	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...					
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ... ..	6	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

## MEAT AND OFFAL CONDEMNED

Weight of Meat condemned due to:—

- (a) Tuberculosis ... .. 4,220 lbs.  
 (b) Other diseases or conditions ... .. 2,791 lbs.

7,011 lbs.

## OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED

Tinned foods: 21 lb. 4 oz. Shoulder Ham, 13 lb. 7 oz. Peaches.  
 1 lb. 13 oz. Peas.

# FOOD INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION

## FOOD SHOPS AND PREPARING PREMISES

Sixty-two shops are registered under the Act for the sale of Ice Cream.

### Food Poisoning Outbreaks

Six cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

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## MILK SUPPLY

### THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS AND THE SPECIAL DESIGNATION REGULATIONS

(1)	No. of Distributors	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
(2)	No. of licences issued to sell—							
					Deolers		Supplementary	
(a)	Tuberculin Tested Milk	...			14		2	
(b)	Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	24		2	
(c)	Pasturised Milk	...	...		11		2	
					<hr/> 49		<hr/> 6	

H. KELSO WATSON

Medical Officer of Health.

D. K. PEDLEY

Public Health Inspector









